

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing scar formation during the healing of at least one wound in a subject who has incurred injuries that result in said at least one wound or in a subject who will be inflicted with at least one surgical wound at a known site comprising applying a furin inhibitor directly to the site of said wound, wherein said furin inhibitor inhibits latent TGF- β activation.
2. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 1 wherein the inhibitor is a serine protease inhibitor.
3. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 1 wherein the inhibitor is lipid soluble.
4. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 2 wherein the inhibitor is a peptidyl chloroalkylketone having a peptide moiety which mimics at least one convertase enzyme cleavage site.
5. (Currently Amended) The method defined in claim 2 wherein the inhibitor is decanoyl-RVKR-cmk (SEQ ID NO: 1).
6. (Withdrawn) The method defined in claim 1 wherein the inhibitor is water soluble.
7. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) The method defined in claim 6 wherein the inhibitor is hexa-arginine (SEQ ID NO: 7).
- 8-22. (Cancelled)
23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said injury is to a muscle, tendon, ligament or skin.
24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the wound is a surgical wound.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said applying is topical.
26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said applying is by injection.